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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEVADA**

LAUSTEVEION JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

v.

JAMES DZURENDA; FRANK DREESSEN;
REGINA BARRETT; JOSEPH LEWIS;
TIMOTHY KNATZ; DAVID WILLIS AND
JO GENTRY,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 2:17-cv-01671-APG-EJY

**JOINT STIPULATION AND ORDER
TO CONTINUE THE DEADLINE TO
FILE A JOINT DISCOVERY PLAN
AND SCHEDULING ORDER
REGARDING REOPENING
DISCOVERY**

(FIRST REQUEST)

Plaintiff, Lausteveion Johnson (“Plaintiff”), by and through his appointed counsel, Frank M. Flansburg, III, Esq., and Emily A. Ellis, Esq., of the law firm Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, and Defendants, James Dzurenda, Frank Dreesen, Regina Barrett, Joseph Lewis, Timothy Knatz, David Willis, and Jo Gentry (“Defendants”, and together with Plaintiff, the “Parties”) by and through their counsel Aaron D. Ford, Esq., and Austin T. Barnum, Esq., hereby submit this Joint Stipulation and Order to Continue the Deadline to file a Joint Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order Regarding Reopening Discovery.

MEMORANDUM OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

I. RELEVANT BACKGROUND

On August 2, 2022, this Court held a status conference in this matter (the “Status Conference”). During the Status Conference, the Parties informed the Court that they were working

1 together to agree upon the reopening of discovery and the parameters of the same. In light of this,
 2 the Court ordered the Parties to work together and file, on or before August 26, 2022, either (i) a
 3 stipulation to reopen discovery, which would include a proposed revised discovery plan, or (ii) a
 4 joint motion with competing proposals due. Following the Status Conference, the Parties worked
 5 diligently to agree upon the terms of a stipulation to reopen discovery, including engaging in written
 6 meet and confer efforts as well as lengthy personal telephonic conferences. As a result of these
 7 good faith meet and confer efforts, the Parties have orally agreed to certain terms for reopening
 8 discovery.

9 However, the Parties have not had the opportunity to formalize the agreement and prepare
 10 a stipulation by the Court ordered deadline. That is, counsel for Defendants recently received orders
 11 from the military that he would be deployed for three weeks, starting August 26, 2022, during
 12 which time he will not be able to participate in this case. Additionally, counsel for Plaintiff, Troy
 13 Domina, left the law firm of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP, with his last of August 26,
 14 2022. Because of the foregoing, the Parties require additional time to formalize the stipulation to
 15 reopen discovery and hereby request that the Court extend such deadline to October 7, 2022.
 16 Moreover, the instant stipulation is being filed after the expiration of the August 26th deadline
 17 because there was a misunderstanding as to what day was Defendants' counsel's last day in the
 18 office, and counsel had already left for duty before the stipulation could be agreed upon and
 19 submitted to the Court.

20 **II. LEGAL DISCUSSION**

21 **A. EXTENDING TIME.**

22 (1) In General. When an act may or must be done within a specified time, the
 23 court may, for good cause, extend the time:

24 (A) with or without motion or notice if the court acts, or if a request
 is made, before the original time or its extension expires; or

25 (B) on motion made after the time has expired if the party failed to act
 because of excusable neglect.

26 Fed.R.Civ.P. 6(b)(1).¹

27 ¹ LR IA 6-1(a): "A motion or stipulation to extend time must state the reasons for the
 28 extension requested and must inform the court of all previous extensions of the subject deadline the
 24600108.3

1 The United States Supreme Court has recognized, “Rule 6(b) gives the court *extensive*
 2 *flexibility* to modify the fixed time periods found throughout the rules, whether the enlargement is
 3 sought before or after the actual termination of the allotted time.” *Lujan v. Nat’l Wildlife Fed.*, 497
 4 U.S. 871, 906 n. 7 (1990) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted) (emphasis added); *see*
 5 *also Perez-Denison v. Kaiser Found. Health Plan of the Nw.*, 868 F. Supp. 2d 1065, 1079 (D. Or.
 6 2012) (citing and quoting *Lujan*, 497 U.S. at 906). Further, this rule, like all the Federal Rules of
 7 Civil Procedure is to be liberally construed to effectuate the general purpose of seeing that cases
 8 are tried on the merits. *Ahanchian v. Xenon Pictures, Inc.*, 624 F.3d 1253, 1258 (9th Cir. 2010).
 9 Regarding “good cause,” it is a non-rigorous standard that has been construed broadly across
 10 procedural and statutory contexts. *Id.* (citing several circuits *Venegas–Hernandez v. Sonolux*
 11 *Records*, 370 F.3d 183, 187 (1st Cir.2004); *Thomas v. Brennan*, 961 F.2d 612, 619 (7th Cir.1992);
 12 *Lolatchy v. Arthur Murray, Inc.*, 816 F.2d 951, 954 (4th Cir.1987)).

13 Based on the foregoing, the Parties submit that excusable neglect exists surrounding the
 14 timing of the instant request and that good cause exists to grant the requested extension. As such,
 15 the Parties hereby stipulate and request the Court grant them an extension of the deadline for the
 16 parties to file a Joint Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order Regarding Reopening Discovery to
 17 October 7, 2022.

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27 court granted.” Further, a “stipulation or motion seeking to extend the time to file an opposition or
 28 reply to a motion, or to extend the time fixed for hearing a motion, must state in its opening
 paragraph the filing date of the subject motion or the date of the subject hearing.” LR IA 6-1(c).

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated above, the Parties hereby stipulate and respectfully request the Court continue the deadline to file a Joint Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order Regarding Reopening Discovery to October 7, 2022.

DATED this 29th day of August, 2022	DATED this 29th day of August, 2022
BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP	STATE OF NEVADA OFFICE OF ATTORNEY GENERAL
BY: <u>/s/ Emily A. Ellis</u>	BY: <u>/s/ Austin T. Barnum</u>
FRANK M. FLANSBURG III, ESQ.	AARON D. FORD, Attorney General
EMILY A. ELLIS, ESQ.	AUSTIN T. BARNUM Deputy Attorney General
<i>Attorneys for Plaintiff Lausteveion Johnson</i>	<i>Attorneys for Defendants Regina Barrett, Frank Dreesen, James Dzurenda, Timothy Knatz, Joseph Lewis, and David Willis</i>

ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the foregoing stipulation is approved and the deadline to file a Joint Discovery Plan and Scheduling Order Regarding Discovery currently scheduled for August 26, 2022, is VACATED and rescheduled for October 7, 2022.

IT IS SO ORDERED.


UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

DATE: August 29, 2022